

One day we hear the declaration that the old plays, the old operas and the old books are best. Next we learn that only the new is good. Fact is, the public settles questions of goodness in its own way and in its own time.

There was a day when "Trovatore" belonged to the list of worn-out operas. Only the other evening I heard a whishered man of intelligence say that he didn't care much Versit-that he was a back number. Yet "Trovatore" does the business in this West of ours. It did it last week and it will do it again before the season at Music Hall is

There were to be many doings with that new thing of Sousa's, "El Capitan," but it failed to happen. The music was its own bright self, the chorus was pretty, plump and otherwise pulchritudinous, the staging superbunto gergeousness, and the principals were pleasing; but no throngs battered the doors down for entrance.

On the other hand; "Le Prophete," stupid, heavy, uninterest-ing, uneverything that is entertaining, drew

freat crowds.

The man who sets about to guess on his public must fatten his bocketbook or at range with a Luck Secr.

The marvelous Mr. Mansfield will be with

riage to nobody while he goes to France. In that country, tempted by the inducements of wealth and rank, he enters the bonds of wedlock with the daughter of a French nobleman. In the meantime troubles fall thickly around his poor wife in the island of Jersey. She is shortly to become a mother, and the knowledge of this fact shocks her neighbors to such a degree that they shun her as if she was infected by the plague. It also rehas cast his managerial eye over President Savage's ensemble, and don the sock, buskin and other Thespian paraphernalia in order to appear as the Chevaller—a part that he played many years ago in the old Francis Wilson days. In Mr. Hageman's position will be found Stage Manager Ed P. Temple, who was sent on from New York President Savage to superintend the newlylainte" production. His work last year to the "Mikado" dwells pleasantly in pubin the "Mikado" dwells pleasantly in pubrecollection. He is the great apostle of the spontaneously animated comely choru-and as such has achieved a creditable renown in the profession. "Erminie" is particularly strong on the scenic and sartorial side. French exteriors, rococco costumes, sliks, satins, hose, buckles, garters, swords, powdered wigs and the like by the score will serve to bravely trick out every act and scene, and, by way of contrast, Caddeau and Ravennes, that precious pair of highwaymen, will do their best to appear picturesque in rags and the enforced semblance of gentility. W. H. Sloan, also out here the first time this season, has the part of Caddy, into which to his demand to take away their causa-to his demand to take away their causa-attempt to kidnap the little one is frustrated by Detricand, who, in the last act, fights a duel with Philip. Guida's faithless husband, does not meet death at the hands Francis Wilson was wont to put his best comedy efforts. Miro Delamotta plays the opposite Ravennes, and the title part has however, does not meet death at the hands of his honorable rival, but falls a victim to Dormy Jamais, the half-witted follower of n assigned to Adelaide Norwood of the

she was infected by the plague. It also re-sults in the death of her infirm oid grand-father. Still she believes in her absent hus-

hand and holds to her promise to keep her marriage a secret. Finally the news Philip has been wedded again comes to her, the blow falling with crushing force. Her child is born, and for years she endures micror-tune with fortitude. Her chief sympathizer is Detrigand, where

tune with fortitude. Her chief sympathizer is Detricand, whose character resembles somewhat that of Sldney Carton, in Dickens's "Tale of Two Cities." He has loved her from the first, but through all the dense-

gloom of her life she has been true to the false-hearted Phlifp. The latter returns to

visits the hut of Guida, where a ground scene ensues. Convinced of his periody, she refuses to love him any longer or to consent

Detricand. All ends happily for Guida and Detricand before the final fall of the cur-

Little fles have been said to be danger in

ful invention of a newspaper man which was the original cause of the dramatiza-tion of "Sherlock Holmes." When William

Gillette was in London in the midst of his long run with "Secret Service," one day

Charles Frohman showed him a clipping from an obscure newspaper printed in the

western part of the United States, which

quoted Doctor A. Conan Doyle as saying

that no one should ever dramatize the play,

"Sherlock Holmes," but William Gillette, At that time Mr. Gillette is said to have

had a marked dislike for the stories, voting

appearing as the great detective of fiction, However, he suggested to Mr. Frohman that it might not be a bad idea to secure

the title of "Sherlock Holmes" for dra-

matic use, and this suggestion Mr. Frohman acted upon, arranging with Doctor Doyl-

on a royalty basis for the use of the name regardless of what use it might be put to. There the matter rested until the English

season had closed, another season had

opened and Mr. Gillette was in California

on his farewell tour in "Secret Service" when Mr. Frohman suggested that the detective story series should be dramatized,

and declared that that Western newspaper

man had a keen eye for the fitness of things when he coupled together the personality of

William Gillette and the literary personality

. . . .

Mr. Gillette communicated with Doctor

Doyle and asked him to what extent he might take liberties, if he so desired, with the literary character, and Doctor Doyle replied that he left the matter entirely in Mr. Gillette's hands and gave him earte

blanche to do as he thought best. Mr. Gillette then arranged with Mr. Frohman that he have a six weeks' rest in California for the purpose of dramatizing the play. One who knows Mr. Gillette knows that

of Doctor Doyle's hero.

them almost too impossible for consider

Island of Jersey a French Admiral He

luscious voice and raven hair.
Following is the complete cast each of its principal characters

... Gertrude Quinlan Louise Celva Blanche Chapman
Anna Thomas
Harry Luckstone
Maurice Hageman
Clinton Elder
Miro Delamotta ... Gertrude Clarke Captain de Laurey ..... 

After "Erminie" Conductor Liesegang is to be given his long-delayed chance to put on "Lohengrin," which will be the New Year's week attraction. Mr. Liesegang has attended all the Wagnerlan festivals in the midseason at Bayreuth for many years, and the Wagner cult fluds in him its strongest

Regarding the rumor that he is to appear in "Hamlet," William Gillette, in an inter-view, made this statement: "I have hear! nothing but what I have read, but if I am asked to attempt the part I will do so, though with considerable misglving and a great deal of modesty. At best I have two years of "Sherlock Holmes" before me tour-ing the the the country this year, and going to Lon-don for a year's stay. Then if it's 'Hamlet,' I'll do it."

"Why did I play Hamlet? Write it down simply ambition." says Mr. Sothern, "an actor's ambition, if you like, I was anxious to reach the highest in art, and I consider 'Hamlet' affords every opportunity for the utterance of the best a man has in him. Am I satisfied? As to the results, the retion, the generosity of the audiences and the critics, I am more than satisfied; I am deeply grateful. An instant may decide the ort of a lifetime, and Hamlet has been my lifework. I have had it in my mind

ever since I can remember. "How many Hamlets have I seen? I was present at Henry Irving's first night in Lon-don, and I saw Salvini's last night in the play in New York, at the theater in Thirty-fourth street. I saw Bernhardt recently in Paris. As a member of McCullough's com-pany, I shook hands with Hamlet in two different characters in the company. ris. As a member of McCullough's com-ny, I shook hands with Hamlet in two ferent characters in the play. I have the cast for both Rosencrantz and Guliden-en cast for both Rosencrantz and Guliden-



by Alan Dule. There is news about it to the effect that the book will be made into a play. If the play is as deeply clever as the book, it will fail, for the same reason that "Arms and the Man" and other Bernard Shaw plays are failures. It will be too simply true for the public that wants simply true for the public that wants double-distilled heart interest. "His Own Image" tells the story of an actor who, like most prominent players, was pleased with himself, the married a girl because she was about to win some of his patate and he hoped, by making her his wife, to drive her from the stage. The story is analytical in a true and simple way and its characters are outlined with vividness But there are no gentle sweethcarts, me happy ever-afters and no slap-stick dia-There are no ladies with pasts, and the one lady with a present makes no pre-tense to decency. So, for your play of the period, what will "His Own Image" do in its present form?

## Bills in Prospect.

The thetle Square Company will present the cooperar light opera, "Ermine," for its Christ E. H. Sothern and Virginia Harned will pre-

sent "Hamlet" at the Osmple this week at ... Sothern has recovered from its recent accident William Gillette in Sherberk Holmes comes to things, and if not always cangerous are lar-reaching in effect. There used to be an old saw in the copy-books about a peblic changing the course of a stream. As inci-dent illustrative of this appears in the ca-reer of William Gillette. It was the cheer-ful inventors of Miss Marle Burroughs and her company, headed

of the Strong, at the Century this work, "A Wise Guy" is the play arranged for Christ

has week attraction at the Grand Opera-house, beginning with to-day's matines. Wil-tiams & Walker in "The Sons of Ham" are down

"Sham Rive." and another play not yet decided upon but open to public choice, will be at Hay-lin's this week. "Man's Enemy" will be the New Year's attraction at Haylin's. On the night of Pelaruary 4 a length performance for Manager William Garen will be the bill at Haylin's. The play will be "The Gunner's Mate."

The Impetial Stock Company will present Sweet Lavender" as the Christman week hill. The play for the week following him not yet Wright Huntington, formerly a well-known brading roan, course to the Columbia to-day with a comedicata by Brandon Hurst, entitled "A Stolen Rise." Other good folks are on the full.

"The Americans" will be the bill at the New Standard this week, Fourteenth and Lecust streets. The next attraction is Reilly & Woods' big show.

by the Choral-Symphony Society next Thursday evening at the Odeon. The valorita for the even-ing will be Miss Scabury Force, Mrs. Sue Har-rington Furback, George Hamlin and Charles W. Clark. At the Sunday afternoon concert at the Oleon

The eratorio of the "Messiah" will be atten-

to-day Mr. Robyn will present the cantata "The Story of Bethlehem," with full shorus and Winston Spencer Churchill, the young British war correspondent and writer, will lecture at the Odeon on January 21.

Theodore Thomas and his Chicago erchestra will give two concerts at the Odeon on the even-ings of January 4 and 2.

"Roses Under the Show," a Christmas play by Courad Nies, will be given by the Heinmann-welb stock company at the Olympic Theater to-night. A number of children of well-known Ger-man families will take part in the play.

"Alice in Worderland" will be presented to St. Louis audiences at the Odeon, Christmas week, afternoon and evening. It is a spectacular pro-duction, and was set to music by Miss D. Hope

we'se de reel t'ing. Den all of a suddint we goes daffy and goes out paintin' de town. And de nex' mornin' you'se jumps on yeuse'f fo' bein' de worse ever. Las' nite you'se was somebuildy else from wot you'se is in the mointin' an all de from wot you'se is in the month.—an all de-time you'se one people. See? Let you'se feel like de dream—jus' sif you'se wanted to hunt a hole and der weren't no holes handy. Jeke, de good guy, wouldn't win no med-als in a beauty show, but in his own class Hide, de let 'un, would have a walk-over. He's de swellest t'ing fer bad looks wot I ever seen. He sizzles an' snorts an' walks ever seen. He sizzles an snorts an walks imply-legged, and he ain't get no more manners 'n Smoky Mike. Dere's a old guy wid whiskers wot's a gospel pusher, an' he tells on him-how he kleked de siats out'en a little guy, and out's de office for Hide to git back at de preach. Goe' but yer oughter see Hide make him back in. see Hide make him look like a punched transfer. He jumps on him an' bites his ear and solar plexuses him, den he gives him de ha ha. And de rest of de actors stays off convengent till he's t'rough and de preacher's a dead 'un. Den de guyl lets out a pipe and says her pour old fadder is moyded, an' Jeke, whose sorry for hisself and doan want ter give hisself away, comes back lookin' white-livered and says, "Who by?" and de preach gets his wind for a secon and tells Jeke dat It's Hide wot's dun de trick. Den everbuddy looks scared, but Jeke's wise, and he fays low and saws wood. Dey do stunts like dat all trough do show, and jos ter jolly t'ings along a little more missubble de guy wot runs de lectric lights keeps busy Prowin' green all over Hide. Say, I'm goin' ter join de Sal-vationists. Lat Jeke takes too many chances ter suit dis member.

Not the least important member of Marie Burrougha's company is her pet dog, Calcot, who has accompanied her on her tours for everal reasons. When the actress arrived to this city hast Sunday night from Kan-sas City she rode with her manager. D. V. Arthur, and her maid to the Planters Hotel. Rooms had been engaged for Miss Bur-roughs, but as she and her mail were about to step into the elevator an edict was sent forth from the clerk's desk that Chirot could not go upstairs, but must be given over to the care of the porter. Manager Arthat pleaded. The clerk shook his head, 14 was the rule, he said, and it could not be broken. Credentials were offered by Manager Arthur from the Holland House, New York; the Pfister of Milwankee, Coates of Kansas City and other hostelries of note; which testified to Chicot's character. clerk of the Planters continued obdurate diss Burroughs at this stage of the pro-ceedings announced that unless Chicot was allowed the same privilege as herself she would go to another hotel. The threat had the desired effect, and the official behind the desk winked at the rule barring canines, while Chicot barked as the elevator shot

## To Postpone Old Age.

The latest theory is to apply electricity to the base of the brain. The hard-ning of the arteries the first symptom of old age is followed by a crumbling away of the train cells, which gradually invades the whole organ. This process pr any invades the whole ergan. It is prices pri-duces the mental characteristics of old age. Not alone does this treatment restore the feelings of youth, but produces the appearance of it. While hundreds of experiments of this sort have been resented, there is still but one sure way of proging youth, and that is by the preservation of health. For this purpose, and for the cure of omitipation, indigestion, dyspersia, liver and didney disorders, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters was placed before the public over fifty years ago. Every day of these years it has been the only one perfectly reliable cure. Money cannot buy a better remedy. Try it, and you will be con-

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Mrs: Theophile Schmitt, wife of the ex-Secretary of the German Consulate, writes the following letter to Dr. Hartman in re-gard to Peruna:

307 WABASH AVE., CHICAGO, ILL, The Peruna Medicine Co., Columbus, O.:



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### Liederkranz Concerts and Glee Club & & & Entertainments. & & & &

Director Richard Stempf's leading of the chorus was the distinctive feature of the Liederkranz concert at the Liederkranz Club hast Saturday evening. His figure and the vivid mensur sear on his check alone are always striking, but when he brings the work and of the chorus which he is the average German would not be Christ-

trond of singers like an anxious teacher. But his wind seems to have the proper magic power of drawing from them their best tones, for their work as a chorus of emateurs is teconically almost multies. Old members of the Liederkranz chorus say that in all the years of its existence no leader has brought it to each perfection as

Singing seems to be one of the paradon of the German male. For example, in this Liederkranz chorus there are at least offy German business men, who work hard all day and find considerable pleusure at nigot day and find considerable pleasure at figure by religiously rehearsing songs in chorus. Age does not dampen their enthusiasm. Last Saturday night, one saw Gustay Craner on the stage, and not far from him there were Louis Hilfer and Paul Thergarten. It is necessary to hear the kina of songs they sing to appreciate the work has do. The list cheris song was of the they do. The first chorus song was of the Stempf's arms, and one was apt to think that the sea was superlatively growsy of the day the action of this song was sup-posed to take place, but the tenor volce-and the basses and the barytenes swung in Iways at the proper time, it all showed arnest endervor and good training, but one had the impression that the spirit was

But it was in the next song that the voices rang out true and sure. If was a Suaban folk sens, very simple and pretty, with lots of sentiment and ringing cho-ruses. The members of the chorus were least confident of the success of the last song, entitled "Forest Harps," a German classic. But it was really the datatest but of the entire concert, not excepting even the solor of the professionals. The only thing that spoiled it was the long sinilarithise which the director employs when he is so busy with his hands that they connot serve the purpose. And some unsoulful person persisted in closing a door with a torturing screech. This would not be re-marked if there were not always some such unsoutful person who spous pretty effect at other Liederkranz concerts,

Tenor Charles Heckel sang the solo part him were perfectly frank, they would confess that they enjoyed his morsel of song nester than the warblings of the two pre-tessionals. He has a strong voice of pure timbre, and his range is very nigh.

The professional artists were Max Heinrich and his daughter. Miss Julia Heinrich, of Chicago. The Heinrichs would not consider it an fliguistice to be called the Minnesingers of to-day, for they sing almost exclusively felk songs. It is a very pretty jieca, it is not in this province to say anything about the doings of professionals, but if it were, it would be pointed out that while Miss Heinrich may be trained as a soprano to a superlative degree, she does not feel what she sings. She has a fine

the music out of the chorus, which he is conducting, by Jerks and spasms of exertion, he becomes the dominant figure. Mr. Stempf is so thoroughly in carnest that he forgets that there are almost a thousant persons looking at him, if hovers over his larged of chorus like an area of the conducting of the conducting the co toses of women and children have been theroughly drilled by day and by night under the direction of Mr. Stempf and his assistants. The Christmas song-festival, with tree and Santa Claus and an the rest of it, will take place some time between Caristmus and New Year's.

> Musical events during the holidays always remand one that most of the college glee cluts manage to make St. Louis their stand staring the Yuletide, it may be that more sympathetic mammas and papas are willing to hear the performance because Jack or Madge are at home and that for this reason St. Louis is more remunerative as a stand, but one is inclined to think that the kindness with which the young men are entermined by St. Louis people has much to do with it. Apropos, there is a little tallier regarding these cluts that might be cheared up. Not half-of the original club starting on the tour ever reaches St. Louis, but the manager of the aggregation always has a correspondent in the city who arranges with some of the alumid was can play the banjo or the mandolin or who can play the banjo or the mandolin or who can man to take the place of the men who have fallen by the wayside. This accounts for many local faces on the stage, even if their names are not on the programme. Musical events during the holidays always

for many local faces on the stage, even if their names are not on the programme.

Christmas week will be a very busy holicary season for the youths who compose the Manual Training School Manulolin Club. They have arranged a very interesting itinerary to give concerts and ministrel performances. The number of young men is not exceeding large, but what they lack in numbers they faily make up with enthalment and energy. A. B. Mooney, who can make a banjo sing or howl and a guitar talk, and of whom it is recorded that be can hypnotize an audience with his mandolin, to say nothing about what he can do on a violin or plane, is the leader of the chib. The others are foughts Martin, Harry Van Cleave. Cliftora Darby, Ernest, Bock, Frank Stevans and Fred Carpenter. They can all do miracles with their instruments Mysterious surprises are promised at the fertheoming concert.

The first concert and entertainment will take place at the Arcade Hall, in Cabanac, on next Wednesday night. On Thursday night it will be repeated in Kirkwood, in the Armory Hall, on Friday night in the Music Hall in East St. Louis, and on Saturality of the give the Ferguson entertainment on New Year's Eve, but a dance is a feduled to take place, and the boys were advised to change their date. In the minstrel half of the entertainment, Frank Stevens, Lougias Martin, Jack Sullivan and A. B. Mooney are the end men. Harry Van Cleave, Douglas Martin and C. E. Rilliet will do a sketch called "Sherlock Hoines," and Jack Sullivan recites a monologue, Frank Stevens and A. B. Mooney will play guitar and mandolin solos and duets in a sketch called "C. Briager Rage," Then Raymond Kellog and Harry King, tenor and herytone, who have delighted student entertainments fromeanly, will sing duets, C. E. Rilliet also sings a tenor solo. Jack Sullivan and A. B. Mooney have the tailiend of the programme, with a sketch in which they will discreasely, but they wrote the sketch.

When athleties languish perforce, the boys in the higher schools take up the work

that is just after Thanksgiving and lasts until after New Year. The Smith Academy Mandolin Club has lately been meeting every Tuesday and Friday evening, under the leadership of Sim Price and William Foden. It has about fifteen members. Just at present they are working hard in mysterious seclusion, rehearing and preparing for an entertainment to take place on January 18 in the Odeon. It is to be a very magnificent affair.

At the High School E. N. Ross is prepar-ing his mandolin club for an exertion of some kind, but he is not ready to reveal it. This club is always requisitioned for the entertainments of the numerous societies in the school and, therefore, is always in train-

In the latter part of January the Manual Training School Mandolin Club will give an entertainment in the Unitarian Church on Garrison avenue and Locust street. But it will not be an initial performance, as the entertainment is a venture upon the confidence born of the success of last month.

Arthur B. Mooney, who leads the Manual Club, does other things in musical enterprise. He wrote a sketch for the entertainment of this week, and he has caused several kinds of difficult instruments with strings to succomb to his prowess, but his spirit is not satiated. He has composed a cakewalk, He calls it the "Sapho Cakewalk," and the boys on the mandolin club say it promises to stir up as much eathursiasm as its namesake. It's to have a limited publication.

Friends of Miss Amelia Appelheimer, the daughter of John Appelheimer, of North St. Louis, receive very promising reports of her progress under Marchesi in Paris, where she has been studying during the past year. Miss Appelheimer has what her friends call a wonderful contrailto voice, and intends to go on the stage. Besides studying under Marchesi she is a pupil at a dramatic school. Her mother is with her. Each of Mr. Appelheimer's three daughters have received their musical education in Europe. But the other two, who are now in the city, studied in Germany.

Some curious tales are affoat about the treatment various local aspirants for musical honors were afforded in Paris by the celebrated teachers. They say that when they arrived there, supposing they were entirely and they had been "sublet" by the nuch-venerated, to understudies. Marchesi and Leschetizky and others have so many applicants that it is a physical impossibility to accept them. Their method of substitution is very shrewd, but it does not cause thehm to make friends.



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